

resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 256

Whereas the National Assessment of Adult Literacy reports that 90,000,000 adults lack the literacy, numeracy, or English-language skills necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the economy and position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of a child's parents and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in a child's education is a key predictor of a child's success, and the level of parental involvement in a child's education increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in their children's education and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and their success in the classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers their lives and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job to provide for their families, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills, and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure each and every citizen has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 23 through 29, 2013, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist those in

need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls upon public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

SENATE RESOLUTION 257—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 3, 2013, AS “JUMPSTART’S READ FOR THE RECORD DAY”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 257

Whereas Jumpstart, a national early education organization, is working to ensure that every child in the United States can enter kindergarten prepared to succeed;

Whereas Jumpstart recruits and trains college students and community volunteers year-round to deliver a high-quality early education curriculum to preschool children in low-income neighborhoods, helping preschool children develop the key language and literacy skills they need in order to succeed in school and in life;

Whereas, since 1993, Jumpstart has engaged nearly 28,000 adults in service to more than 50,000 young children in communities across the United States;

Whereas Jumpstart’s Read for the Record, presented in partnership with the Pearson Foundation, is a national campaign that culminates in 1 day out of the year when millions of people in the United States come together to celebrate literacy and support Jumpstart in its efforts to promote early childhood education;

Whereas the goals of Jumpstart’s Read for the Record are—

(1) to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood education in the United States;

(2) to support the mission of Jumpstart, as well as early education programs established by Jumpstart in preschools in low-income neighborhoods; and

(3) to celebrate the commencement of Jumpstart’s program year;

Whereas October 3, 2013, would be an appropriate date to designate as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day” because it is the date on which Jumpstart aims to set the world record for the largest shared reading experience; and

Whereas Jumpstart hopes to engage more than 2,385,305 adults and children in reading “Otis”, by Loren Long, during a record-breaking celebration of reading and service, in support of preschool children in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 3, 2013, as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day”;

(2) commends Jumpstart’s Read for the Record on its 8th year;

(3) encourages adults, including grandparents, parents, teachers, and college students, to join children in creating the world’s largest shared reading experience and to show their support for early literacy and Jumpstart’s early education programming for young children in low-income communities; and

(4) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Jumpstart, one of the leading non-

profit organizations in the United States in the field of early childhood education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 258—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL INFANT MORTALITY AWARENESS MONTH, 2013

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 258

Whereas the term “infant mortality” refers to the death of a baby before the first birthday of the baby;

Whereas the United States ranks 50th among countries in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas high rates of infant mortality are especially prevalent in African American, Native American, Alaskan Native, Latino, Asian, and Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander communities, communities with high rates of unemployment and poverty, and communities with limited access to safe housing and medical providers;

Whereas premature birth and low birth weight are leading causes of infant mortality;

Whereas, according to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, premature birth costs the United States more than \$26,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas infant mortality can be substantially reduced through community-based services, such as outreach, home visitation, care coordination, health education, inter-conceptual care, and fatherhood involvement;

Whereas support for community-based programs to reduce infant mortality may result in lower future spending on medical interventions, special education, and other social services that may be needed for infants and children who are born with a low birth weight;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services, acting through the Office of Minority Health, has implemented the “A Healthy Baby Begins With You” campaign;

Whereas the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration has provided national leadership on the issue of infant mortality;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on reducing infant mortality and improving the health status of infants and pregnant women;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services with respect to developing a national strategy for reducing infant mortality;

Whereas public awareness and education campaigns on infant mortality are held during the month of September each year; and

Whereas September 2013 has been designated as “National Infant Mortality Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, 2013;

(B) efforts to educate people in the United States about infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality; and

(C) efforts to reduce infant deaths, low birth weight, pre-term births, and disparities in perinatal outcomes;

(2) recognizes the critical importance of including efforts to reduce infant mortality